

Friday Night Fax

A Periodic Publication for Indiana AmeriCorps Programs

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Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism

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Senator Bayh Visits Purdue Campus and Talks About National Service

Senator Bayh, joined by key staff members, visited the Purdue campus on Thursday, February 21st. He was invited by the Purdue Student Government to talk about national service. Senator Bayh spoke on the increasing opportunities for national service. He addressed many points from his Call to Service Act 2002 including increasing the community service through the Federal Work-Study program, the role of AmeriCorps in homeland security, increasing the number of senior volunteers in service, the 18-18-18 plan for military service and increasing AmeriCorps to 250,000 participants in five years. The Senator addressed the differences between his plan and President's Bush proposal, the USA Freedom Corps. For more information on national service legislation, visit the ICCSV website at www.in.gov/iccsv.

Unified State Plan and Oncourse

During the last two weeks, the Unified State Plan stakeholders provided excellent feedback on the primary issue areas identified during the January 24th meeting. The broad titles of these issue areas were education, community development and citizenship. The revised list will be presented to the group via Oncourse during the week of March 4th and all will be welcome back on April 11th for a meeting to address strategies within each issue area. Stakeholders are encouraged to continue visiting the Oncourse website at www.oncourse.iupui.edu and read about the progress that has been made and the future activities scheduled for developing the plan. If you have problems accessing Oncourse, please contact the ICCSV team. This is an exciting time for service both nationally and in the State of Indiana!

George J. Russell Appointed as Inspector General to CNCS

Effective February 27, 2002, President George W. Bush announced he would be nominating George J. Russell to serve as Inspector General to CNCS. Terry Bathen has been serving as the Acting Inspector General and will continue until the nominating process is completed. Russell previously served as the staff director and chief counsel to the Subcommittee on Government Efficiency, Financial Management and Intergovernmental Relations, Committee on Government Reform, U.S. House of Representatives. Born Oct. 8, 1963 in Brooklyn, NY. ASC will arrange to meet with the new Inspector General as soon as possible to discuss our views on the best way to maintain collaborative relations between State Commissions and the Inspector General's office.

ICCSV Audit General Update

The auditors completed their initial two-week visit to ICCSV on Friday, 2/22. They were very pleased with the systems that have been in place since 2000, along with the partnership of DWD and provided a list of observations, both positive and those needing improvement. A final report will be issued from the OIG's office in April 2002. The auditors plan to return in June 2002 to begin the sub-grantee visits. A team member from ICCSV or DWD will be present for each exit conference conducted as part of these site visits. More information on the schedule and activities will be provided when available. If you have questions, please contact Amber Roos at 317-233-0900 or by e-mail at aroos@dwd.state.in.us or Karyn Romer at 317-233-0901 or by e-mail at kromer@dwd.state.in.us.

Learn and Serve Sub-Grants

The ICCSV no longer issues Request for Proposals (RFP) or entertains new proposals/letters of intent for youth-led community-based service-learning projects through the Learn and Serve program. The ICCSV has no plans of discontinuing the Learn and Serve program. However, the period from February to July will allow the Commission to close-out its 1995 and 1998 Learn and Serve grants and prepare its application for 2002 Learn and Serve funding. These are critical responsibilities for the ICCSV and we ask that each of you exercise patience with us during this time, so that we can better serve our communities in the future. Should you have any questions, please contact Carey Craig at (317) 232-2504 or by e-mail at ccraig@dwd.state.in.us.

Indiana 2016 Celebrates Volunteers

With its inaugural issue of Building Community, Indiana 2016 celebrates a long tradition of volunteerism and community-based initiatives in Indiana. Building Community is an electronic newsletter with the mission of recognizing efforts from around the state that help to make Indiana a great place to live. Indiana 2016, which takes its name from our bicentennial in fourteen years, values the crucial role individuals play in shaping their communities today—and tomorrow. Check out our website at www.IN.gov/2016 or subscribe to Building Community by sending your requests via e-mail to jswenson@gov.state.in.us. If you know of an outstanding program with lots of community involvement, we'd love to hear about it.

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2001 – 2002 Indiana AmeriCorps Promise Fellows Orientation

The Indiana AmeriCorps Promise Fellows will be attending an Orientation in Indianapolis, Indiana at the Westin Hotel (downtown) from March 11 – 12, 2002. The event will be lieu of the Tri-State Orientation that was cancelled to increment weather. Seminars for the orientation include National Identity/AmeriCorps 101 and America's Promise 101/Reporting and Tracking. For more information, please contact Brandy Wood at 317-232-2503 or via email at bwood@dwd.state.in.us.

Governor and General Assembly Continue to Work Together on Budget Crisis and Taxes
As the General Assembly heads into the final two weeks of the 2002 Legislative Session, debate continues around two of the most important issues in decades: the budget and taxes. The House narrowly passed House Bill 1004, which dealt with both issues and raised cigarette taxes and increased riverboat gaming fees. The Senate stripped that bill and inserted its own tax plan, which passed by a wide margin. However, the Senate bill does not resolve the budget crisis. Over the course of the next several days and weeks, representatives from both chambers will meet with one another to iron out their differences. The Governor will also be very active in the negotiations with lawmakers to ensure that Hoosiers get the very best deal possible. For more information, please visit Governor O'Bannon's website at www.IN.gov/gov.

Service-Learning: Connecting Schools and Communities

The Civic Literacy Project is hosting its annual spring conference on Thursday, March 7, 2002 in Indianapolis, Indiana. This year's conference theme is Service-Learning: Connecting Schools and Communities. Registration materials and conference information are available online at www.serve.indiana.edu or call 812-856-0528. The conference is intended for K-16 educators and students, AmeriCorps volunteers, and community based organizations interested in participating in informative and interactive workshops that fit into the following strands: Service-Learning Skill Development, Program Management, Partnerships in Service-Learning, Youth Service and Leadership, School Reform and Service-Learning, or special topics for Roundtable discussions.

Keep in Touch!

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Important Deadlines and Upcoming Events

Program Director's Conference Call	March 4, 2002
Service-Learning: Connecting School & Communities Conference	March 7, 2002
Periodic Expense Report for Period Ending February 1 st	March 11, 2002
Indiana Promise Fellows Orientation	March 11 – 12, 2002
Promise Fellows Conference Call	April 5, 2002
Periodic Expense Report for Period Ending March 1 st	April 10, 2002
Financial Status Report for Period of January 1 st – March 31 st	April 10, 2002
ICCSV Board Meeting	April 11, 2002
National Youth Service Day	April 20, 2002
National Volunteer Week	April 21 – 27, 2002

The *Friday Night Fax* is a periodic publication of the Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism. AmeriCorps Programs and community service partners may contribute information or be added to the distribution list by contacting Brandy Wood at (317) 232-2503 or via e-mail at bwood@dwd.state.in.us